

REMARKS

Claims 16-18, 21, 22 and 23 are presented for consideration, with Claims 16, 21, 22 and 23 being independent.

Independent Claims 16, 21 and 22 have been amended to further distinguish Applicants' invention from the cited art. In addition, Claim 23 has been added to provide an additional scope of protection. Claims 1-15, 19 and 20 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action, Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. This rejection is deemed to be moot in view of the cancellation of Claim 9.

Claims 1 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Tamamgawa '778. Claims 1-9 and 11-22 stand rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Beretta '890. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Beretta. These rejections, as they apply to the pending claims, are respectfully traversed.

Claim 16 of Applicants' invention relates to a color-information processing method for displaying color distribution based on sample points. The method includes a color distribution information input step of inputting color coordinate values in a second color system corresponding to samples in a first color system, a user's-instruction input step of inputting a user instruction relating to an operation of generating a three-dimensional object, and a step of selecting sample points in accordance with the user instruction from the sample points in the first color system and obtaining the color coordinate values in the second color system corresponding to the selected sample points. In addition, a generation step generates surface information of the

three-dimensional object based on the obtained color coordinate values in the second color system and generates color information of the surface of a three-dimensional object based on the obtained color coordinate values in the second color system. A display step displays color distribution based on the surface information of the three-dimensional object and the color information of the surface.

As discussed in the Amendment of May 17, 2006, the patent to Beretta relates to a graphical user interface for interactively modifying a color gamut clipping. The graphical user interface provides a graphical representation of a color space in a color space window on the user's display and draws each color in a palette in its current location in the color space. As understood, the graphical user interface stores plural colorimetrically measured colors representing the gamut of one or more target hard copy output devices, and displays the boundaries of a selected device gamut in the color space. Although Beretta teaches display of color spaces in three-dimensions and the editing of colors in the color space, Beretta is not understood to teach or suggest, among other features of Claim 16, generating surface information of a three-dimensional object based on obtained color coordinate values in a second color system and generating color information of the surface of the three-dimensional object based on the obtained color coordinate values.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that Beretta fails to teach or suggest Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claim 16. Claims 21 and 22 relate to a

computer-readable medium and an apparatus, respectively, and correspond to Claim 16. These claims thus also include the features of generating surface information of the three-dimensional object based on obtained color coordinate values in the second color system and generating color information of the surface of the three-dimensional object based on the obtained color coordinate values in the second color system. Claims 21 and 22, therefore, are submitted to be patentable over Beretta for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Beretta is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 16, 21 and 22 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 17 and 18 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

New Claim 23 is also submitted to be patentable over Beretta. Claim 23 relates to an apparatus for processing color information for displaying color distribution based on sample points. As in Claim 22, Claim 23 generates surface information of a three-dimensional object based on obtained color coordinate values in a second color system and generates a color information of the surface of the three-dimensional object based on the obtained color coordinate values in the second color system.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott D. Malpede/
Scott D. Malpede
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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